September 17, 1999

US Food & Drug Administration Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Joy M. Zakarian, M.P.H. 2442 Oxford Ave. Cardiff, CA 92007

RE: Docket Numbers 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for accepting public comments on reducing egg-borne diseases. I am writing to urge the FDA to ban the forced molting of laying hens, a practice which often decreases immune function thus leading to increased shedding of Salmonella. As a public health researcher, I feel that it is imperative that the FDA should immediately take this step of banning forced molting in order to increase the safety of the nation's food supply.

Sincerely,

Joy M. Zakarian, M.P.H.

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

## FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

## **CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C691

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C692

96P-0418/C691

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